

The Haliburton County



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Tuesday, December 7, 2021

Total 24 pages









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The Dysart Fire Department held its last training exercises before the new year at the town docks on Monday, Nov. 29 in Haliburton. Close to two dozen firefighters, including six new recruits learned firefighting techniques, which included operating the water hoses./ **DARREN LUM Staff**



COVID-19 outbreak declared at J. Douglas Hodgson Elementary School

NICK BERNARD

Staff Reporter

Last week, as part of their daily COVID-19 advisory table, the Trillium Lakelands District School Board reported that two cases of COVID-19 had been confirmed at J. Douglas Hodgson Elementary School in Haliburton.

Over the weekend, a third case was

discovered. As a result, the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit declared an outbreak, with two classrooms at the school affected.

Parents whose children were identified as possible high-risk contacts were notified through letters sent home from the health unit. The letter included specific steps for vaccinated or unvaccinated individuals to follow for isolating, testing and other prevention measures.

"Provincial guidance requires a school outbreak be declared when two or more linked confirmed cases occur within a 14-day period, where at least one case could have reasonably acquired their infection in the school," said Dr. Natalie Bocking, the medical officer of health with the HKPR District Health Unit, in an email to the Echo.

"Related to this situation is an ongoing COVID-19 outbreak declared on school

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bus No. 32 in Haliburton County. The bus transported students to multiple schools, including J.D. Hodgson, Stuart Baker Elementary School, and Haliburton Highlands Secondary School," Dr. Bocking said. "Individuals who rode the bus and were identified as possible high-risk contacts have received information from the health unit that included requirements for

see CONTINUE page 2

NAPOLEON





AIR MILES

Rotary reunites children with Santa

Almost 200 cars showed up for kids to tell Santa their Christmas wishes and give him a wave! The Haliburton Rotary "Drive-Thru" Community Christmas Party took place on Saturday at Curry Chevrolet in Haliburton. /NICK BERNARD Staff





over

The excitement was palpable as the gifts, the pizza, and the holiday cheer took



Hanging out on the way to driving through to meet Santa.



Santa waves from his post inside Curry Chevrolet's service bay. He made a special trip from the North Pole direct to Curry Chevrolet.



Things were the right mix of festive and fun.

Continue taking precautions to reduce the chances of COVID-19 transmission

from page 1

isolating, going for testing and other prevention meas

Letters had also been sent to parents at Stuart Baker Elementary and Haliburton Highlands Secondary

Dr. Bocking also stated that, while the Omicron variant has been found elsewhere in Ontario, it has not been

"At this time, the health unit has not been notified of any local cases of Omicron variant and the Delta variant remains the dominant strain of COVID-19 in the province," she said, stipulating that cases were, in fact, increasing throughout the province. "It's important that everyone continue to take precautions to stop the spread of the virus, including getting vaccinated."

burton County Community Assessment Centre is ready to handle the increased demand for testing.

"Haliburton County Community Assessment Centre is collaborating with the [Haliburton Kawartha Pine Ridge District Health Unit] to ensure we up-staff to have as much capacity as possible to respond to the increased testing needs for student cohorts affected by our local school COVID-19 cases. We continue to reassess this need daily and adapt as needed," said Plummer, quoting from a statement conveyed through Plummer from the assessment centre and its community partners.

"We thank all families for following HKPR's advice and coming out for testing while self-isolating. Testing

as directed by HKPR will help capture asymptomatic or In an email, the Haliburton Highlands Health Services mildly symptomatic cases that develop during the selfisolation period and ensure our schools stay cohorts return."

Plummer's statement included an alternative testing method approved by the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario (CHEO). A video titled "How to do a combined nose and mouth swab for COVID-19" was provided alongside the statement, and is available to view on CHEO's YouTube page.

Dr. Bocking said families could also contact the Health Unit's School Health Team at 1-866-888-4577, ext. 1508, if they had any additional questions or concerns.

The TLDSB COVID-19 Advisory School Status is updated daily at 4:30 p.m. The Advisory Status page can be viewed at https://www.tldsb.ca/covid19-advisory.

Medical officer of health offers guidance for holiday season

SUE TIFFIN

Staff Reporter

The following are brief reports from a Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District health unit media briefing held virtually on Dec. 2.

Dr. Natalie Bocking, HKPR medical officer of health, said she has asked about her guidance for the upcoming holiday season as COVID-19 cases rise in the province and with the news of Omicron, a newly identified variant of concern.

"What I want to really emphasize today is that the individual and community choices we make today regarding preventive measures we take for COVID-19 is what's going to determine our case load in a couple of weeks from now," said Bocking. "Right now we know that our cases are increasing. We're seeing more outbreaks, we're seeing more cases among elementary school children and associated activities. And if we continue with all of our same behaviours right now, we're going to continue to see these cases go up. So we have an opportunity before our numbers continue to rise significantly to start to re-evaluate some of the day-to-day behaviours that we have."

Bocking said this means that those feeling sick should stay home, and those feeling sick and experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 should be tested.

"I think that there's likely virus circulating in the community that we're not seeing because people are not being tested, and there's certainly access and opportunity to get tested so that people are able to make informed decisions about the types of activities that they're doing," she said.

If people are meeting at indoor gatherings with individuals from outside their household or who are not vaccinated, Bocking said masks should be worn. Gatherings should be kept to smaller

"The more we see larger gatherings and opportunity for virus to spread, we'll continue to see it," she said.

By the numbers

To date, across the region, 2,571 confirmed cases of COVID-19, with 35 active cases as of Dec.1 - four of those being in Haliburton County – and 174 high-risk contacts have been recorded. Three ongoing outbreaks were reported – one among a school bus cohort in Haliburton County, one affecting seven patients at Campbellford Memorial Hospital, and one at a workplace in Brighton. The incidence rate, Bocking said, was 18 cases per 100,000.

"I want to highlight that this is actually double the incidence rate reported last week," she said. "We've started to see and I think we'll continue to see an increase in COVID-19 activity.

The test positivity rate was 1.5 per cent, while the reproductive number - an indication of the number of other people who will become infected by those positive cases – was above one.

Which indicates potential for a fairly increased spread among the community,

She noted that there have been 36 cases among the school population and school staff throughout the region since September, and that other than the bus cohort outbreak, there have not been schoolrelated outbreaks.

"However, in the last week alone, we have had 12 of those 36 cases identified among school-aged or staff associated with schools. To me, this really indicates

that we're seeing increased activity in a number of different settings, and that we're continuing to see it among younger age groups and school-aged children.

In the last 14 days, Bocking said there have been 50 new cases: 32 per cent of those don't have an identifiable source, 20 per cent are household contacts, and 16 per cent were considered close contacts.

Vaccination roll-out update

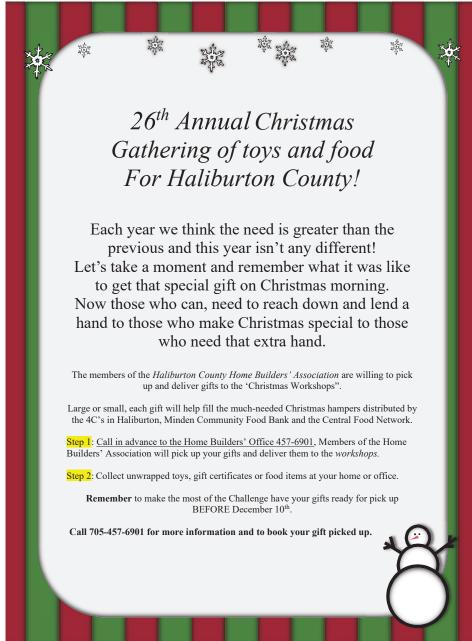
Among the population in the health unit area aged 12 and over, 86.9 per cent have received one dose of COVID-19 vaccine, and 84.4 per cent have received two

"We do continue to see a very small incremental increase in those 12 and over still getting their first dose," she said. She continued encouraging those who haven't had a first dose to receive it.

'Vaccination continues to be the number one preventative measure that we can take right now as an individual and as a community to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 and help prevent the severe outcomes associated with COVID-19 that we see, especially among our older population," she said.

To date, more than 1,000 residents aged five to 11 in the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge district health unit had already received their first dose of COVID-19 vaccine, with 11,000 being eligible. Bocking said there is capacity across the region for every child that's eligible to receive their first vaccine prior to the end of the year through clinics, their primary care teams and pharmacies.







HHHS deficit adds to 'very challenging year'

SUE TIFFIN

Staff Reporter

The following are brief reports from the Haliburton Highlands Health Services board meeting held virtually on Dec. 2.

When giving a financial overview, David O'Brien, vice-chair of the board and chair of the finance committee, noted "two very large numbers facing us right now."

"We're experiencing a second very challenging year with a deficit of about \$613,000 as of Sept. 30," he said. "Similar to last year, ongoing staffing pressures of about \$350,000 and total lost revenue from Ministry of Health sources of about \$372,000 explain the majority of the unfavourable variance to date.

'In addition, we're experiencing cashflow issues," he said. "Like all hospitals we have not received our reimbursements for COVID-related expenses since the end of February of this year, and those expenses are now approaching \$3 million."

O'Brien said COVID expenses are approved separately and reviewed by the province.

"We're going to continue to have serious issues going forward in the year, I don't know what the third quarter numbers are going to look like but they're not going to be pretty, for sure," he said. "We will continue to work with our funding agencies to help them understand our challenges. These challenges are particularly onerous on a small rural hospital. All hospitals are facing these kinds of issues, obviously, but they're particularly onerous on small rural hospitals who have very limited sources of external revenue that they can depend upon."

O'Brien thanked staff, including CEO Carolyn Plummer, doctors, nurses, healthcare professionals, and those working at the hospital for their work.

"We are working under severely difficult and stressful times," he said. "Our financial issues do nothing more than add to the already stressful times."

Plans for emergency department closure ongoing

A decision on which emergency department in the

county will see a service reduction has not yet been

"First, patient and staff safety has been and will continue to be at the forefront of our discussions and analysis," Plummer later told the Echo. "We will also continue to be led by our values of compassion, accountability, integrity, and respect. To make the difficult decision about which ED may have to reduce services, we are considering: typical volumes of patient visits to each emergency department; current staff schedules, gaps, and staffing models; the geographic location of each emergency department in relation to communities across Haliburton County; and feedback from our partners, including but not limited to the Ministry of Health, Ontario Health East, and Haliburton County Paramedic

In the meantime, Plummer said a service reduction is still trying to be avoided, with attempt to recruit permanent staff or temporary staff.

"But we know the staffing shortage we're experiencing is definitely significant across the entire province, so we do have to plan for all circumstances and be prepared for all circumstances," she said. Once it is decided which site will experience potential closures, Plummer said the public will be informed at least 48 hours prior to the closure. "While our emergency departments typically see their greatest volumes during the summer months, visits also increase during the fall and winter as respiratory illnesses circulate in the community," she told the *Echo*. "With this in mind, and with the recent rise in COVID-19 cases, we strongly encourage community members to follow public health measures, including frequent handwashing, wearing a face mask in public spaces, and maintaining social/physical distancing. We will continue to do everything we can to recruit new staff, support our existing staff, and engage with staffing agencies to help fill gaps until more staff can be hired.'

HHHS preparing for Omicron

Plummer said that just when it started to look like pandemic-related challenges were slowing down, the new variant of concern has caused "heightened awareness."

Measures in place to prevent the spread of COVID-19 have continued, though with the news of the Omicron variant, Plummer said there are changes to screening

questions, specifically asking about travel.

Plummer spoke to the outbreak of student cases related to a bus route, which at press time involved five students from SBES and JDHES.

"We have been seeing some increased volume of cases in our community, and an increased volume of folks looking for testing at our assessment centre," said Plum-

To date, HHHS staff has a rate of 97.4 per cent for those who are fully vaccinated or have had at least one dose of the vaccine and are being tested regularly.

"I think everybody's really hoping this will end soon,"

Long-term care changes welcomed

Plummer spoke to proposed changes to long-term care legislation, noting the *Providing More Care*, *Protect*ing Seniors, and Building More Beds Act, 2021, which if passed would repeal the current Long-Term Care Homes Act, 2007, and create the Fixing Long-Term Care Act, 2021.

The proposed bill includes an increased focus on direct care hours available per resident, which has been announced previously, different compliance and enforcement tools, a bigger focus on improved infection prevention and control and a focus on quality improvement for

HHHS manages two long-term care facilities – Hyland Crest and Highland Wood – and Plummer said they were welcoming the revised legislation.

"Hopefully that will lead to some more positive changes in that sector, something we've been certainly advocating for some time, and will continue to do so,"

Foot care program returns

Plummer's report to the board noted that community clients "are very excited about the return of the foot care program.'

The wait list had included more than 250 people, who have all been contacted for appointments. The program is being offered at the HHHS Minden site, and will be reopening at the Haliburton location soon.

CORRECTION

In the article "Haliburton residents raise concerns over Wallings Road development" it paraphrased Mayor Andrea Roberts saying "all incoming and outgoing traffic use Wallings Road." However, to clarify, it was in the original proposal by Dysart for rezoning that had incoming and outgoing traffic use Wallings Road, but this was rejected by the County.







Signs of the season

Haliburton residents Jim Burk, from left, and Bill Gliddon set up the nativity scene in front of St. George's Anglican Church by Highland Street on Tuesday, Nov. 23 in Haliburton. /DARREN LUM Staff

Head Lake goes to the dogs ... a portion of it at least

DARREN LUM

Editor

Dog owners Victoria Bingham, and married couple Bruce and Christel Furniss were like maypoles, as their dogs Molly and Roxy ran circles around them, leaving a blur of brown and black in their wake running in the new enclosed dog park in Haliburton.

Roughly the size of two tennis courts, the space opened to the public less than two weeks ago and is located on the Rotary Beach side of Head Lake Park. The space, which is surrounded by five-foot tall chain-link fence, is open between dawn and dusk. Some of the rules include using it at the designated time, no dog toys in the enclosure and dispose of excrement.

The Furnisses love how they can let their Australian Kelpie puppy, Roxy run in an area where they don't have to worry about her.

Living in Haliburton, the couple will be bringing the dog more often to run and to socialize with other dogs.

She has a lot more energy than we do," Christel said. It also affords them an opportunity to socialize with dog owners in a COVID-19 friendly way.

Bruce would like to have the time to use the dog park after dusk with the installation of lights. He adds dusk is at 4:30 now. Christel said anyone who works past 5 p.m. won't be able to use the enclosure.

When reached for comment about this Andrea Mueller, manager of programs and events at the Muncipality of Dysart et al, said, "At the moment there are no plans for lighting at the off-leash dog park. This is something that did not come up in discussions when planning the area. The hours are posted as dawn to dusk

The retired couple who are close to 60 have been walking their dog on-leash around town, close to their residence in the village and the Sculpture Forest, located by the Haliburton School Art + Design.

"But this is where she gets to run, whereas when we're walking, we don't move as fast as she does," Christel said. "She loves other puppies. Yeah, socializing is a huge thing. With COVID, you don't get to see other peo-

Long-time friend Bingham, who invited the couple, lives within walking distance. She said this dog park gives her a unique opportunity to let her 80-pound,

10-year-old German Shephard, Molly run free.
"Most of the places we usually go walking really discourage people from [having dogs] off-leash. So, Abbey



wait for a treat from Victoria Bingham at the off-leash dog park located at Head Lake Park in Haliburton on Sunday, Dec. 5. Bingham has appreciated the dog park, which was opened recently, for how she can allow her 10-year-old German Shephard to run free and be able to socialize with other dogs in an enclosed space. /DARREN LUM

Gardens, Barnum Creek [Nature Reserve]. Like any of the trail areas. Even the ATV, like the [Haliburton County] Rail Trail you don't necessarily want your dog off the leash because you don't know if people are coming. If there's ATVs or, if there's anything else like that," she said. "And a lot of people get scared with Molly,

who's a big dog."

She adds her dog, who is very friendly can appear intimidating people, particularly if it was to run up to people. Without a big backyard and fencing at her Haliburton residence, she said this dog park serves as a "safe

Bingham is a regular user of the park and sees herself

spending more time at the park.
"So, I mean, I'm in the park anyway, and just having

the opportunity to be able to meet up, you know, have a little bit of a social thing for us," she said.

Unlike Bruce, Bingham isn't sure about what, if anything, needs to be changed.

"It's so new. I want to give it a chance to just be its own thing and then if there's, you know, stuff in the future that comes out like we haven't even ... had it for a few weeks, let alone a few seasons yet," she said.

Anyone walking the perimeter will notice how the offleash dog park interrupts the disc golf course.

Mueller said the plan is move the baskets to different locations on the Rotary Beach side of the park this coming spring.

THINKING OF SELLING YOUR HOME OR COTTAGE?

BUYERS ARE EAGERLY WAITING TO PURCHASE A PIECE OF PARADISE IN HALIBURTON HIGHLANDS





Liz Danielsen to continue as county warden

STEPHEN PETRICK

Special to the Echo

Liz Danielsen will serve another term as warden of Haliburton County.

Danielsen, who also serves as deputy mayor of the Township of Algonquin Highlands, was acclaimed to the position at the Nov. 24 county council meeting, held

No other county councillor submitted an application for the position ahead of the Nov. 15 deadline.

Danielsen will be officially sworn in for the new term at the Dec. 14 Haliburton County council meeting, to be

held virtually at 2 p.m.

Danielsen brings plenty of expertise to the position. With Haliburton County, she serves on committees for roads, emergency services, finance and tourism, among others. In her role with Algonquin Highlands, she also serves on committees for the Stanhope Municipal Airport and Stanhope Heritage Museum. She was acclaimed as an Algonquin Highlands councillor in the 2018 municipal election, when she ran to represent Ward 2, Stan-

Externally, she has contributed to the Kawartha-Haliburton Source Protection Authority and worked on the Algonquin land claim issues.



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points of view



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Forever in our memories: Creighton Feir

We're in this together

darren

lum

THE HEATED debate at Haliburton County council recently regarding vaccinations is a clear indication the province needs to take charge when it comes to vaccination mandates.

We've seen the past few years how the province has virtually left the burden of enforcing COVID-19 protocols such as mask wearing to local businesses such as retailers and restaurants, school boards and lower tier governments. It's led to conflicts from outspoken anti-vaxxers, who direct their ire at companies by boycotting Chapman's Ice Cream, protest outside hospitals and create conflicts with retail employees, who don't deserve the abuse.

Be a leader, Doug Ford, and take responsibility for the health of all Ontario residents instead of placating a small portion of the population by a we'll-look-into-itwhen-things-get-reallybad attitude.

It can start with mandating vaccinations among health care workers, who work with the most vulnerable. My mother is in long-term care in the suburbs of

Toronto and she has real difficulty with wearing a mask and grasping the concept of a pandemic. Without vaccination mandates, I worry for her and the residents she shares the floor with. I'm thankful they've started to ask for proof of vaccination upon entering. If I must follow this protocol at the longterm care facility, why not the employees who are there all the time and in close proximity to my mother?

This concept of requiring vaccinations as a condition of employment in hospitals, long-term care homes and other places where hands-on work is involved with patients is not new in Canada. Why is it different in this

We need a government that forges a direction back to a life we're all craving and is ready to accept accountability ... even at the expense of lost votes.

With four student cases in Haliburton in two weeks, it's pretty clear the coronavirus is not gone despite any

preconceived notions we're immune from the pandemic up in the High-

We might be done with the pandemic, but the pandemic is not done

A little more than five million people have died globally from this dis-

In Canada, there has been close to 30,000 people and a little more than 10,000 who have died in Ontario. These are more than numbers. They are people with families, who are mothers, fathers, sisters and sons. Let's not forget them.

Yes, there are people who have not died since contracting the disease. However, COVID-19 is disease that

can adversely affect the lungs, heart and blood vessels, which can lead to heart attacks and strokes caused by blood clots. In autopsies, there has been discoveries of tiny blood clots in the

liver and kidneys. As of Dec. 4, more than 29 million Canadians, or 76.5 per cent of the population have been fully vaccinated. These are good things

and show Canadians, for the most part, are looking out for each other.

The jury is still out about the latest variant of concern, Omicron.

However, evolutionary biologist Jesse Shapiro at McGill said during the CBC radio show, Breakaway with Alison Brunette this is the same virus and as far as we know it is transmitted from person-to-person through the air. This means wearing a mask and ensuring there is ventilation in enclosed spaces can help prevent transmission.

So, there's no reason to completely flip out and think that, you know this is going to be the end of the world and something completely novel," he said.

Public health is a matter for us all to not just pay attention to, but be an active participant by wearing masks and getting vaccinated for others. This global problem depends on a global effort to find the end of the tunnel to a brighter future. This is only possible when we all work together.



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by Darren Lum

The light

I've been taking a course with Robert Holden and Caroline Myss that is about this holy season of light that we are in right now. Every year at this time there are numerous wisdom traditions that celebrate the light, perhaps contemplating the power of light and how light lives in each one of us. How do we each shine as brightly as we can for ourselves, our families, our friends, our communities and for the whole planet. It's a good thing to contemplate as one year comes to end and a new one begins.

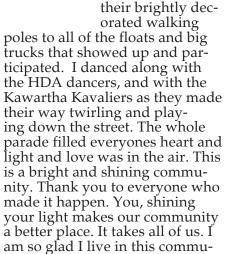
The season of light possibly

begins with Diwali which is the 5 day festival of light celebrated by millions of Hindus, Sikhs and Jains around the world, showing gratitude to the almighty. Chanukah is the Jewish eight-day, wintertime dedication to the "festival of lights," celebrated with a nightly menorah lighting, special prayers and special foods.

On Dec. 8 Buddhists around the world celebrate Bodhi Day, which is considered to be the day when the Buddha became enlightened and realized that it was possible for all beings. On his death bed the Buddha said to the people who were with him, "Make of yourself a light. Be a lamp in the world." There is Advent which is a practice where we prepare ourselves to see the light. Solstice comes on Dec. 21 when we celebrate the shortest day of the year, and the coming back of the light. There is Yuletide, Christmas, Kwanzaa, New Years and

Epiphany and more celebrations. What I understand is that there are many wisdom traditions that all use this time of year to reflect on the past year and how they want to move into the new year. They take the time to pay attention to light in their lives. Where does light come from, how does it feel, what does it inspire, how do we share our light? I think we can all agree that the world needs each one of us to contribute to the light in our own unique ways. When we are cut off from the light, and feel separated and alone is when we struggle more.

I am paying attention to the light every day from the time I get up until I go to bed. Last weekend, I was one of the 400 plus people who lined the street downtown for the Santa Claus parade. It was a night filled with light from the pole walkers who guided the Santa float with their brightly dec-



nity. Shine your light everyone!



lynda shadbolt

points of view

Lawful behaviour

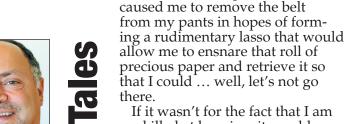
*HAPPEN TO have a lot of respect for our legal system - and not just because it gave us words like "ergo" and "ipso facto," which I frequently use when developing an argument to make me sound smart. No, I respect it because it is in constant flux, addressing issues of injustice that have not been addressed by our courts as yet. Things like, if you paid for the TimBits, does that automatically give you the right to designate who gets the plain ones?

One such moment for me occurred the other day when I was - how do I put this delicately? - seated in my favourite reading room.

For when it came time to reach for the ... let's call it TP, it was not in the holder. Rather it was on the vanity counter

This might not seem like a big deal to most. But to those of us with the arms of a velociraptor and the accompanying short reach, it can become a real issue. As it was in this case.

I reached and found the roll out of my grasp. Unfortunately, I had recently watched an old episode of MacGyver,





steve galea

If it wasn't for the fact that I am unskilled at lassoing, it would have worked too. Instead, however, it only served to make matters worse by knocking the TP off of the counter and onto the floor.

so I decided to improvise. This

Just as I started to shudder at the possibilities, something miraculous happened. The TP roll rolled my

way and stopped, as if guided by the merciful hand of God, at my feet.

The rest of the story is best left untold. Suffice it to say, it

But the point here is, it could have been so much worse. Due to negligence, I was almost deprived of what I would call an inalienable right. And I can't help but think there

ought to be a law against this.

That's why I will be sending a letter to our provincial and federal representatives asking them to create and pass, what I hope will be called, "Steve's Law." That legislation, which will benefit us all, would simply make it illegal to knowingly not restock an empty toilet paper roll. I'll leave the penalties to greater legal minds than my own, but I feel that they should be stiff enough to be a deterrent to those (you know who you are) who would be criminally negligent in such a case. I would also strongly recommend those found guilty would also be forced to listen to a victim impact statement and expert witnesses describe potential outcomes.

I know what some of you are thinking. But I am not just writing this column because I dearly want a law named after me – even though that would secure my legacy and place in history. No, I am writing this because a grave injustice was only narrowly averted. Remember, it could be you next time.

Plus, I'd also like to be looked upon as an example of someone who worked for change. After all, when it comes to providing a more just society, we all have a roll to play. Ipso facto.



Have a thought, comment or opinion you'd like to share?

Send a letter to the editor to darren@haliburtonpress.com



pic of the past

This photo was taken at the Haliburton Women's Institute picnic c. 1913. We love to study the W.I.'s minute books to see how it contributed to the community for nearly 40 years and through two world wars. Submitted by Kate Butler of Haliburton Highlands Museum



A guiding light

A pole-walker lights

the way for Santa at the Haliburton Village Santa Claus Parade on Friday, Nov. 26 on Highland Street in Haliburton. Organized by the Haliburton and District Lions Club and supported by the BIA, the parade made a return since the last one was held in 2019. This year's return featured a record particpation of some 35 groups, including three bands: the Kawartha Kavaliers Drum Corps, the Pipes and Drums of Lindsay and the Correctional Services of Canada Pipes and Drums band./ **DARREN LUM Staff**

Haliburton Land Trust seeking nominations for Enviro—Hero Awards

STEPHEN PETRICK

Special to the Echo

There are surely environmental heroes walking among us in the community – and the Haliburton Highlands Land Trust wants to hear about them.

The non-profit, environmental charity is calling for nominations for its annual Enviro-Hero Awards.

"These awards serve to recognize and celebrate environmental excellence within our community," the organization said in a recent statement. "This year we have decided to once again focus on finding the local unsung Enviro-Hero. We will be honouring one adult (or group) and one youth (or group) who has contributed to the protection and sustainability of our natural resources and environment through their action or initiative, through education or stewardship."

The organization asks community members who know of people deserving of these awards to get in touch and put nominations forward. They just have to include a short description of the nominee, explain why they are nominating them and add contact information, if avail-

To reach the Haliburton Highlands Land Trust call 705-457-3700 or email admin@haliburtonlandtrust.ca.

Nominations close on Tuesday, Dec. 21. One winner in each category will be announced on Wednesday, Dec. 29. The Land Trust then hopes to have an award presentation sometime in the new year, but that will depend on the state of COVID-19 related restrictions.

The annual awards program raises awareness of the importance of local environmental projects and the Land

The trust is an organization that protects and maintains five properties in Haliburton County, which total 12,000 acres of forest and wetlands.

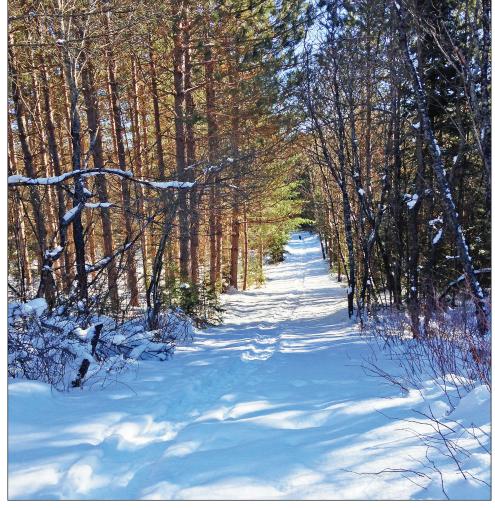
Two of those properties, the Dahl Forest and the Barnam Creek Natural Reserve, are open to the public and have trails for activities such as hiking or cross-country skiing (but not for motorized vehicle use). The Land Trust also covers the Fred and Pearl Barry Wetland Reserve, Norah's Island and Smith Forest.

While the Land Trust is charged with protecting these properties, Enviro-Hero award nominees are not limited to those who've made contributions to these five properties, said Mary-Lou Gerstl, a board member and chairperson of the fundraising committee.

An "Enviro-Hero" could be anyone local who has done something special to contribute to a better environ-

"We call them unsung heroes -- people in the community that have contributed to the preservation of the environment through their own actions," she said.

In selecting award winners, the Land Trust will consider those who have contributed to environmental stew-



This trail is part of the Dahl Forest, one of five properties maintained by the Haliburton Highlands Land Trust. Photo courtesy of Haliburton Highlands

ardship, such as conserving or protecting water, flora, fauna or mineral resources. It will also consider those who have organized and delivered environmental education opportunities for children, youth or adults.

Gerstl said the award program has helped the Land Trust honour all kinds of unsung heroes in recent years. Past winners include a property owners association that ran a "Love Your Lakes" program, a group that ran a shoreline restoration program along Gull River, a local beekeeper and youth who planned events to raise awareness of climate change.

She added that, as time goes by, there seems to be more community interest in protecting the environment; likely as a result of the society's acceptance of climate change. As evidence, she pointed out that the Land Trust is a membership-based organizations, and its members have grown from roughly 150 five years ago to about 190

One of the Land Trust's main focuses today is preserving wetlands and working to ensure they're protected from development.

"We've seen more and more land owners who have wetlands on their properties, interested in our research programs," she said. "I think people are becoming very, very concerned. They're looking at our environment and seeing how beautiful it is today and we want to keep it that way.'

She said the award program is also well received because Haliburton County has a strong environmentloving culture, driven by rural residents who see the importance of preserving nature.

Winners of the awards receive a gift, but it doesn't come with a financial prize. That is never an issue, Gerstl said, because the people who work on these environmental projects don't do it for money. Instead, they do it "because it's the right thing to do."

2020 banner year for Haliburton Cadets

DARREN LUM

Editor

It's better late than never said the commanding officer Captain and commanding officer Corina Hall (Mansfield) of the 1129 Royal Canadian Army Cadet Corps

Close to a year after the cadets were supposed to receive their recognition, the Haliburton-based corps received its Cadet League Trophy in memory of Colonel William A. Maddox for being named the Top Small Army Cadet Corps in Ontario, including \$500 prize, which was used for "fun programming" and required oment. The corps also won the Strathcon for the first time in its history being the Top Small Army Cadet Corps in Southeastern Ontario.

Hall referenced Haliburton's past commanding officer Cam McKenzie, who posted a response: "This is a huge honour and the Cadets of 1129 RCACC are very proud and honoured to achieve it."

Hall offered kudos to volunteers, the Cadets' Lieutenants Stuart Humphries, Max Ward, and Greg Powell, and support committee member Amanda Austin and chairperson McKenzie.

"Without whom this corps would not be what it is. They tirelessly work to provide amazing programming and opportunities. Running a youth program has been a

real challenge over the past two years as you can imagine, but we are still at it, and so lucky to have a community with such a bright and motivated youth population," Hall wrote in an email.

The recognition was for 2020, but the presentation wasn't made until last month because of COVID-19 restrictions, which limited access to the trophy and proved challenging to deliver.

The membership includes 30 registered and 20 active members, who range in ages from 12 to 18 and come from up to an hour away from communities such as Bancroft, Cardiff, Minden and Norland.

"Over the past few years, the cadets, staff and volunteers have worked diligently to bring these communities ether in order to offer this program," McKenzie wrote in the same post.

Cadets not only learn, but also teach other younger cadets important life-skills such as citizenship, leadership and teamwork. They also learn outdoor skills, including orienteering – using a map and navigation, using GPS (Global Positioning Satellite) tools, camping practices, survival skills, canoeing, mountain biking, biathlon, and indoor rock climbing.

Royal Canadian Army Cadet Corps 1129 Haliburton Lieutenant Max Ward, far left, accepted Top Small Army Cadet Corps Central Ontario Region from Captain Rick Brown with 1129 Haliburton's Lieutenant Greg Powell. / Photo submitted by Max Ward



Bringing babies together with EarlyON

November has been an exciting month, as our indoor programs have resumed in Minden and Haliburton. Although we continue our weekly program on Wednesday mornings at Head Lake Park for those who wish to be outside, moving indoors is a welcome option we can now offer. In particular, parents with babies and very young toddlers have been happy to meet inside.

Our Baby Discoveries program offers an opportunity for parents to connect with each other and staff, to share challenges and milestones of babies' first year. This social piece is so important for the parents and the little ones who have spent all of this early time together facing COVID-19 restrictions. It has been wonderful to see all the curious faces looking around, smiling, and taking it all in!

At our baby program, a variety of activities take place in a safe, yet relaxed and fun environment.

Besides time to chat, there is also a time to learn new songs and fingerplays which promote language development (and can also come in handy to entertain your child). We often incorporate scarf and shaker play as well, or the use of simple items such as balls and boxes that parents can try at home. This past week the parents made easy edible finger paint and the children had a chance to try it out – using their sense of touch, smell, vision, as well as taste. A messy but good time!

We are now offering spots for our December sessions

of Baby Discoveries, as well as Play and Learn for the older children, please see our Facebook page to register. Other upcoming events include our Jingle Bell Sing-Along and Giveaway, happening at the end of the month at several library locations, pre-registration required. If you are looking for other ideas, information or activities, our Facebook page has many great videos, parent tip sheets and play suggestions for you and your family.

This important social engagement time is beneficial for the parents as well as the little ones, who have spent much of their time together but not meeting others due to the restrictions of the pandemic.

We hope you can join us!

Submitted by Julie Bosker Program Coordinator, EarlyON Child and Family Centre Minden and Haliburton

Hello and goodbye

community news

west guilford

Eleanor Cooper 754–2278

More sad news to report: Carm Barry, who would have been 72 in March 2022, died on Nov. 21. This is the first break in Helen Murray's family of six boys and one girl, Bonnie. The sympathy of the community goes out to all the relatives, including his two daughters, and all who held him dear. Memorial for Carm doesn't happen till spring when interment will be at Maple Lake United Church Cemetery. Another sad note has struck in the van Nood family, who had made their home for years before moving into Haliburton Village. Jane van Nood died suddenly last week leaving her husband, Don and

family to mourn her passing deeply.

Greg and Cheryl Cooper recently had the pleasure of visiting Greg's sister, Cindy Foster in St. Catharines. They were gladly in the company of Joel and Kendra and their newborn baby, Banks.

After a delightful two weeks enjoying Sharai's visit from Duncan, British Columbia, I had to say goodbye, as daughter, Beth bore her away on Nov. 21. Sharai had been saving her hard-earned cash and wanted to see her Ontario relatives, which included Philip and Tatiana of Toronto, Alan and Sophy of Orillia, my sister, Mavis Swiston of Burlington and her cousin Thomasin, who still lives with her aunt Beth in St. Catharines.



Haliburton helps Fill-A-Cruiser

Haliburton Highlands OPP Sergeant Marc Jones, left, and Auxiliary Constable Dylan Reynolds, right, help load an entire cart of food donations meant for the Haliburton 4Cs Food Bank. The OPP's Fill-A-Cruiser event took place at Todd's Independent Grocer of Dec. 4. /NICK BERNARD Staff

EPIC LAUNCH

On December 3, 2021 Haliburton Highlands Health Services and our partner hospitals across the region will launch a new clinical information system called Epic.

Thank you in advance for your patience and understanding

as we make this major advancement in the way we provide patient care at Haliburton Highlands Health Services.



One digital record for each patient across our seven hospital organizations in the region.



Patient access to a user-friendly and secure portal called MyChart to view their personal health information.



Timely access to information to support your healthcare team, including test results, medication information and other essential health information.



Improvements in patient safety features, including barcode identity validation at the patient's bedside.



Less duplication and more efficient processes, contributing to a more sustainable health system.

This new, shared system will transform the way we provide care for 1.5 million patients across the region.

Seven hospital organizations in Central East Ontario have partnered to implement a shared Clinical Information System (CIS) to support care for 1.5 million patients across our region. The partner hospitals are:

Campbellford Memorial Hospital, Haliburton Highlands Health Services, Lakeridge Health, Northumberland Hills Hospital, Peterborough Regional Health Centre, Ross Memorial Hospital and Scarborough Health Network.

Epic is one of the world's largest electronic health records software companies, and their system has been adopted by hundreds of leading hospitals in North America and Europe, including Mayo Clinic, Cleveland Clinic, The Ottawa Hospital, SickKids, and Mackenzie Health.















Herlihey Park project expected to begin in 2022

CHRIS DROST

Staff Reporter

At the Nov. 23 meeting of the Highlands East council, CAO/treasurer Shannon Hunter shared the good news that the period of studies and consultations have been concluded for the development of Herlihey Park in downtown Wilberforce. These included an Indigenous consultation with Curve Lake, an environmental assessment and a Phase Two archaeological assessment.

"We should be able to conclude the consultations and proceed with the trails and parking lots in 2022," said Hunter. She is just waiting for the final reports but said, "everything looks promising." Until those reports are received, they won't know for sure if any changes are required but it appears that they will be able to move ahead. The financial resources are in place, including a \$100,000 grant received for the project.

The seven-acre property was the location of the former Wilberforce Veneer and Lumber Company. It was donated to the municipality on behalf of Carol and Karl Marcus, long-time residents and in honour and memory of their parents Beatrice and Harold Herlihey.

The conceptual design phase of the project was carried out by North Design Office Inc., an internationally awardwinning company out of Toronto that, according to its website, "is committed to creating thoughtfully designed spaces to generate vibrant and resilient communities and environments." North Design Office assembled background history for the property, assessed the natural envi-ronment and consulted the public before finally creating a master plan for the park. Council accepted this plan on March 16,

North Design Office's conceptual design report states that "one of the priorities in planning a new park at this site is recognizing the former presence of industry along the water's edge: the Wilber-force Veneer and Lumber Company and the Irondale, Bancroft and Ottawa (IB&O)



Design Office Inc.'s Conceptual Design Report of March 26, 2019, show the proposed look for the main entranceway to the park and a conceptual design of the multi-use pavilion, below, that will be a central place for families and larger groups to gather.

Railway. Any design efforts will attempt to preserve the elements and character that make this site truly unique. The ultimate goal is to create a vast, fully accessible landscape that is defined by a varied collection of places for recreation, exploration, healthy ecologies, and refuge.

One of the requests expressed by the public during the community consulta-tions is that the history of the property be captured. An existing pump house is expected to showcase the history of the former veneer mill and the IB&O railway that were once an integral part of the

The plan is to complete the work at Herliney Park in four stages. The first stage, expected to begin in 2022, is the creation of the walking trails and parking

The new park, between Loop Road and Schofield Road, will include shoreline walking trails, meadow walking trails, a restored forested area, beach and swimming area on Dark Lake, sports area with amenities such as a beach volleyball court, multi-use picnic pavilion, public washrooms, central lawn for community events and eventually, a boat dock. Winter use is expected to include skating on Dark Lake. There will be entrances to the park off Loop Road and Schofield Road with parking areas adjacent to each. The



walking trails will be accessible so they can be enjoyed by everyone.

An additional element of the park's location on Dark Lake is that it is a coldwater lake with the capacity for lake trout. This has been taken into consideration as a key asset of the park and efforts to protect these resources have been addressed

'It ĥas been a long time coming but I am extremely pleased with it moving forward. We are excited but we were

put behind the eight ball with COVID in there," said Mayor Dave Burton. Herlihey Park will bring people into the community and will be a place for both locals and visitors to go and relax, according to Burton. "I think we are going to have something very special there," he said.

While finances and resources will impact timing of the next steps, Hunter confirms that all the funding is in place for the project.

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Smokehouse barbecue comes to the Forest

EMILY STONEHOUSE

Special to the Echo

There's a new destination in Haliburton County. The Cookhouse at Haliburton Forest is now run by Truss Foodworks, led by chef Mike Rae. Rae describes the Cookhouse as "a comfortable setting that people can enjoy, it's a place to be social, it's the country with just a touch of the

Rae, who is the founder of Truss Foodworks, started his business in Beaverton, Ont., before relocating to the Haliburton region in October, 2021, "I've had this dream since I was 13," states Rae, "and COVID really fast forwarded that. I stepped away from a steady job, and the lockdown motivated me to do that.

The restaurant, which is in the traditional Cookhouse building at Haliburton Forest, is unlike anything available in the Haliburton Highlands. Rae, who attended a private culinary school before starting his own business, states that the theme of the restaurant is classic smokehouse barbecue. With dishes like the Lumberjack, the Brisket Mac Attack, or the Dino Rib, the restaurant oozes with classic barbecue themes and sweet, homemade sauces.



president of Truss Foodworks, Mike Rae stands outside the Cookhouse preparing smoked ribs for the menu. Rae said that being a chef has been his dream since he was 13 years old. /Photo by Emily Stonehouse

When asked if he's interested in branching out further into the community, Rae lit up, "Boshkung has been absolutely phenomenal to work with," he states, and I am so open to others in the community partnering along the way as well.

I like supporting local and following where things come from in the community.' This owner/operator structure of the Cookhouse is not something that's been

attempted before at Haliburton Forest.

Traditionally, the restaurant has been managed by Forest staff, and has undergone an array of styles, themes, and man-

"We've had some great chapters and great managers of the Cookhouse in the past," says managing director of Haliburton Forest, Malcolm Cockwell, "but it's time to recognize that the most successful restaurants in the county have an owner/ operator structure to them, so we are very excited to be welcoming Mike and his team with Truss Foodworks.'

Cockwell goes on to say that the new management at the Cookhouse brings a new entrepreneurial sense to the Forest, and believes that Rae and his team "really get" what the audience at Haliburton Forest are seeking during their visits

The Cookhouse is open 11-7, Wednesday - Sunday, and has dine-in or takeout options available. They are active on Facebook @trussfoodworks, Instagram @ truss_foodworks, or you can check out their website at www.trussfodworks.ca.

Truss Foodworks is a breath of fresh air to the community; a new flavour, a new vibe, a new energy, and a new sense of collaboration over competition to ensure everyone succeeds together.

Highlands East to address bridge concerns on IB&O trail

CHRIS DROST

Staff Reporter

Highlands East council will be reviewing a recommendation from its Trails and Recreation Committee at its Dec. 14 meeting to obtain a professional opinion about the safety of a bridge on the IB&O trail between Wilberforce and Tory Hill. This trail is 5.5 kilometres in length and is posted as multi-use. It is a popular trail for hikers, ATV riders and snowmobilers.

The Trails and Recreation Committee discusses proposals and brings forward ideas that they think should be taken to council. Council makes any final decisions. The committee does not do handson work and is one of five such advisory committees in Highlands East.

According to Councillor Cameron McKenzie, chair of the committee, it was a member of the public who first brought forward concerns about the bridge. It is not the top covering of the bridge that is the issue, but the underlying structure. The top appears more recent, but the pilings appear to be old. He is not sure of the age of the bridge but some online investigation reveals that it would have originally been built between 1894 and 1895. There is no way to tell if it was ever replaced after that date. McKenzie sus-

have been made from either tamarack or hemlock, two types of wood known for their lasting qualities.

For the vegetarian and gluten free

friends, Rae also dabbles in jackfruit, glu-

ten free breads, and a variety of salads.

Often, new restaurants can create ten-

sion in the community, but right away,

Rae partnered with Boshkung Brewing to

create new experiences and opportunities

for them both to succeed, including beer

and food pairings, community events,

and tentatively even a Robbie Burns night

in the New Year.

Truly, there's something for everyone.

Concern has been raised, and I think rightly so, that an engineer looks at it. Trails bring in a lot of tourism to the area," said McKenzie. Only a small num-



This photo shows the aging pilings under the bridge on the IB&O trail between Wilberforce and Tory Hill. /Submitted Kevin

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Your local Baha'is community invites you to investigate these teachings

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If you have any questions or if you would like more information contact a Bahai in your area.

Haliburton Helen 705-457-1999, Minden George and Kathie 705-286-3378 West Guilford/Kenisis, Pat and Peter 416-606-9657 Eagle Lake/Fort Irwin Gord and Kathryn 705-754-0939 or www.bahai.org

ber of trails in Highlands East are looked after by the Eastern Ontario Trails Alliance, the one from Baptiste to Highland Grove being one of them. The IB&O trail is owned and cared for by the Municipality of Highlands East and so this is their

Liability is a big deal these days," said McKenzie, adding it is important to get the bridge checked out both for safety and liability.



Huskies claw back from two goal deficit to beat Cougars 3–2

ALEX GALLACHER

Special to the Echo

The Haliburton County Huskies fought back from being two goals down to beat the Cobourg Cougars 3-2, Friday night at SG Nesbitt Memorial Arena.

The Cougars opened up the scoring as George Krotiris scored his seventh of the season only four minutes into the match. With an aggressive game taking place the last time these two teams met, the story was more of the same again this time.

Haliburton's Ryan Hall would get into a shoving match with one of the Cougars forwards after Hall's stick was snapped. Big hits and big plays all around the ice, the Cougars would get one more before the period was up.

Zach Smith fanned on his shot attempt but it somehow fooled Christian Cicigoi and ended up in the back of the net. The Huskies headed back to the dressing room down a pair, but the charge back started as soon as the second began.

Cameron Kosurko set up Lucas Stevenson who managed to beat Justin Easter glove side, netting his 9th of the year. The goal lit up the arena, giving the Huskies a much needed spark and cutting the lead

Isaac Sooklal came back from injury and put up some good stats, but Sooklal left Friday's game after taking a hard hit into the boards. He was taken to the Minden Hospital for an evaluation and will hopefully be back in the roster for the Dec.11 game vs Wellington.

Another Husky who came back from injury was Patrick Saini, having not laced up in nearly a month and a half. Saini made quite a comeback, burying a beau-



Haliburton County Huskies forward Lucas Stevenson readies to turn up ice to join the play with Cobourg Cougars Erik MacNiel looking on Friday, Dec. 3 at the S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena in Minden. /ALEX GALLACHER Special to the

tiful feed from Oliver Tarr on the powerplay less than two minutes into the third to tie the game up at two apiece.

Seven minutes later and the Huskies took their first lead of the evening.

Bryce Richardson scored off a pass from Christian Stevens, beating Easter with a powerful snap shot. Hall picked up an assist on the goal and just like that, the Huskies were in front.

The Cougars threw everything they had at the Huskies, but Cicigoi turned it all aside. In the end, the Huskies held on for the 3-2 victory.

"The players did a great job to rebound and delete that first period," head coach Ryan Ramsay said. "If we play the rest of the season like we did the final 40 of this game, I think we will win a lot more games. It was a good effort from the team

and a big two points for us tonight."

For Patrick Saini, being able to score in his first game back meant the world to him. Having missed a good chunk of the season, being able to light up the Minden Arena never gets old.

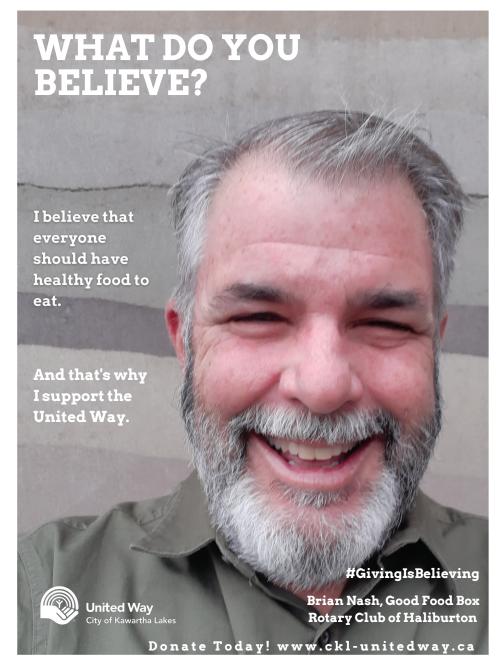
"It feels great to finally get back on the ice after being away for so long," Saini said. "Tarr gave me a great pass to get it in front of the net, and I was really happy I was there to pop it in.'

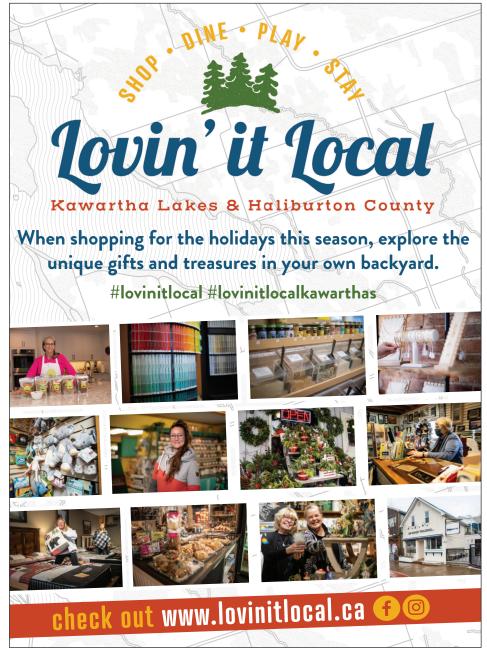
With another game winner, Richardson is cementing himself as a key franchise player in the Huskies lineup. He

expressed that Cobourg and Haliburton would make an amazing playoff matchup and one he would love to see.

"Just to get the win in general felt great," Richardson said. "This win is a huge for the whole team. Cobourg is an aggressive team, sometimes you gotta out rough them, but mostly just play our game and use our skill to win."

The Huskies then headed out to Trenton to take on the Golden Hawks on Sunday. Saini added two more goals as the Huskies defeated the first place Golden Hawks 2-1 and will return to the Nesbitt on December 11th to take on the Wellington Dukes.







Dawn Piercey prepares her throw at the Curling Club.

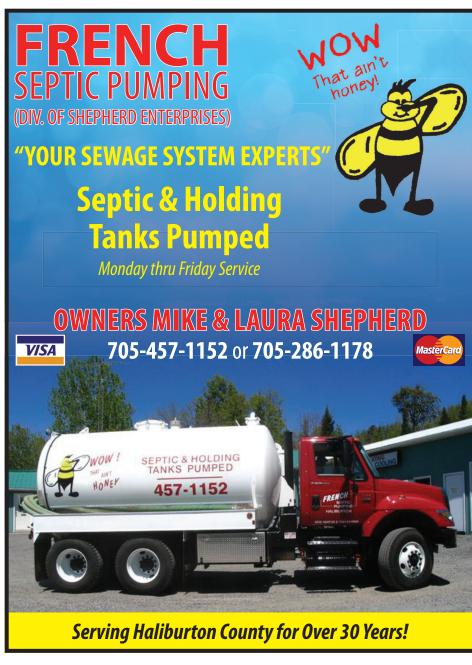




Cleaning house

Above, members of the Haliburton Red Wolves consult their next play for the Special Olympics at the Minden Curling Club at their practice on Monday, Nov. 29. From left, Kim Buie, coach Dave Piercey, Dawn Piercey, coach Dave McKay. /NICK BERNARD Staff

Left, Skylar Pratt shouts to her sweeper as Kim Buie and coach Dave MacKay look on during their practice. The Red Wolves are hoping to increase their numbers following the pandemic

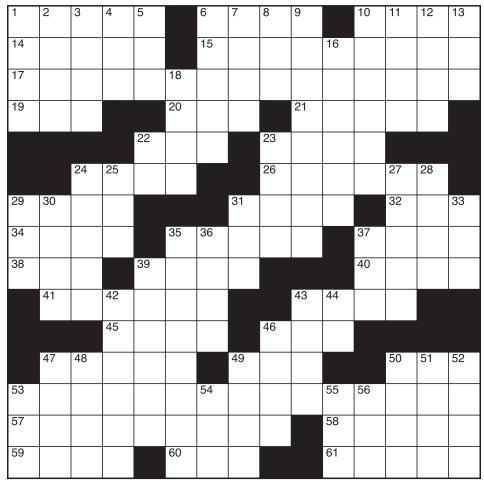




accepted as awarded and may not be substituted or converted to cash.

Crossword brought to you by





CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Polish city
- 6. Very eager
- 10. Identifies a specific person or thing
- 14. Tennis great Naomi
- 15. One concerned by professional advancement
- 17. PGA Championship reward
- 19. A fashionable hotel
- 20. Norse mythology afterlife location
- 21. Stood up
- 22. Car mechanics group
- 23. Weather forecasters use it (abbr.)
- 24. Broken branch
- 26. Astronomy unit
- 29. East Asian nursemaid
- 31. "Airplane!" actor
- 32. Exclamation that denotes disgust
- 34. "Batman" villain
- 35. Downfalls
- 37. Philippine province
- 38. Once-vital TV part
- 39. Valley
- 40. Tax
- 41. Classic Scorcese film
- 43. Subway dwellers
- 45. Book part
- 46. Taxi
- 47. Pancakes made from buckwheat flour
- 49. Swiss river
- 50. Founder of Babism
- 53. Have surgery
- 57. Withdrawal from a larger entity
- 58. Lot's father
- 59. Greek war god
- 60. 2,000 lbs.
- 61. Lemur

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Quarrels
- 2. Right away
- 3. Comedian Carvey
- 4. Egyptian unit of weight

- 5. A Brit's mother
- 6. Tropical tree
- 7. One who speaks Gaelic
- 8. NHL legend Bobby
- 9. Vacation spots
- 10. Military personnel
- 11. Shakira's don't lie
- 12. Wimbledon champ
- 13. Teletypewriter
- 16. Mistakes
- 18. Whale ship captain
- 22. Thus
- 23. From end to end
- 24. Kids love him
- 25. One and only
- 27. Fencing swords
- 28. Taxis
- 29. Basics
- 30. Refuse of grapes
- 31. Go quickly
- 33. French ballet dynasty
- 35. Most open
- 36. Popular soap ingredient
- 37. US time zone (abbr.) 39. Items of food
- 42. Backbones
- 43. Infrequent
- 44. Blood type
- 46. "Let It Snow!" songwriter
- 47. Dutch colonist
- 48. Pike
- 49. Egyptian sun god
- 50. A cardinal is one
- 51. From a distance
- 52. Bolivian river
- 53. N. American student organization
 - 54. River (Spanish)
 - 55. Chinese life force
 - 56. Chinese surname

Answers on page 17



David Copestick, Josh LeBlond, Judith Bamford, and Sarah Hall stand under the sign welcoming people to SIRCH Bistro & Marketplace. Since 2020, SIRCH has cooked 35,000 portions of home cooked meals for those who are in need. /NICK BERNARD Staff

Gifts from the Heart fundraiser helps SIRCH's food efforts

NICK BERNARD

Staff Reporter

This is the 10th year of SIRCH's Gifts from the Heart, the annual fundraiser that helps fund SIRCH's efforts to address gaps in social and health services in Haliburton County. Since March of 2020, over 35,000 portions of home cooked food have been provided for free to people in need.

SIRCH executive director Gena Robertson says the focus of Gifts from the Heart is on the continued funding of SIRCH's community kitchen, which prepares the food that goes to various organizations in the community.

"It's really about providing food security to individuals in the community who... really need to have prepared, nutritious food," Robertson explained.

"We have a number of organizations that distribute, because they know their clients," she says, listing off the organizations SIRCH works with, including the Haliburton Highlands Health Services' Meals on Wheels, the Haliburton Youth Hub, and FoodNet.

She says SIRCH's partnerships with organizations like FoodNet have allowed them to place freezers around the county, which makes home cooked meals from SIRCH's kitchen accessible to those in the county who are struggling. The organizations collect the meals from SIRCH, and then distribute them at their locations.

Robertson says about a dozen such freezers are located throughout the county, enabling their work to continue beyond just the town of Haliburton.

She says the need to focus on food stems from the rise in need during the pandemic.

"I think the need skyrocketed, you know, people who were laid off, and isolated, and closed down," she said. While she says the need tapered off a little during the summer, it has since returned as

strong as ever. Robertson also attributes the ongoing and increasing vulnerability of people in the community to the rise of food prices and a lack of local transpor-

She also says it's important to get food to people whose general life circumstances prevent them from accessing

food.
"You know, if you're depressed, if you're grieving, if you're palliative, you probably don't want to make food even if you can afford to do it," she said. "So, there's lots of reasons that people would just appreciate a meal."

She says the meals are made by volunteers under the direction of chef Sarah Hall, using only nutritious food.

"It's sort of our gift to the community," Robertson said in characterizing the work SIRCH is doing.

She said providing food to people in need must be done with dignity, which is why the food is given to organizations like the Youth Hub, the YWCA, the City of Kawartha Lakes Housing, and others.

"I don't want someone to come in and feel in any way that they're not equal," she said. "If you need food, you get it there, where people know you and know that you have that concern.

Robertson says that SIRCH wouldn't be able to complete its work without the support of the community.

'We're just incredibly appreciative because we would not be able to accomplish what we do without the very generous donations of people who support us," she said. "We have a really giving community ... people volunteer here, people help out here, it's a pretty impressive community."

Gifts from the Heart runs from now until Christmas.

People are encouraged to donate to Gifts from the Heart in person, by mail, or online at sirch.on.ca/donate.

Visit any one of SIRCH's Social Enterprises to support their work year-round.

Annual Nutcracker ballet returns with virtual performance

DARREN LUM

Editor

After two years away due to the pandemic, the annual staging of the Nutcracker ballet is returning with a virtual show, featuring several key dances set to the music that was written by Russian composer, Pyotr

Staged by the Heritage Ballet school and supported by the Highlands since it started in 2004, this ballet has represented what is possible when the community comes together, imbued with the spirit of the Christmas and festive season.

There's been well over 100 people helping in any given year, whether it was the dancers who ranged in age from toddlers to teenagers up to the adult volunteers, which included parents/guardians and local celebrities that took on memorable roles such as Mother Ginger with her outrageously large dress.

This year the owner of the Haliburton ballet studio and long-time choreographer Julie Barban said offering the show on Dec. 24 that features five dances performed by several of her dancers is about keeping the seasonal tradition of the annual performance alive and to ensure the magic continues.

"It's not just a kid's dance performance. We have, you know, the adults in there as well. And it's not like a dance recital. It's not just family and friends who are coming to watch their grandchildren or whatever. It's the whole community that comes to watch this because the whole community has kind of been involved. So, it's just kind of a neat way to bring everybody together before Christmas," she said.

This performance will feature her long-time and regular students such as Alyssa Morissette, 17, sister Chloe, 12, Alexis Dacey, 12, Sophie Longo, 16, Avery Bullock, 14, Lily Manning, 16. The five shortened dances are: the Snow Queen, the Chinese Tea Dance, the Arabian Dance, the Sugar Plum Dance and the Pas du casse Noi-

It will be set at the home of Anthony and Juliane van-Lieshout, who have appeared in the ballet along with their children, former students of Barban's and Nutcracker performers.

There's a certain symbolism in holding the performance in a home setting, Barban added.

It's just like the setting of her students, who took dance classes in their bedrooms with the online confer-

They have a beautiful fireplace. It's all decorated, so that's going to be lovely, but it's bringing it home to me to a whole new level because it just kind of represents what the past two years have been like with what we've had to do in our homes," she said.

The Sticks and Stones Productions media company, which is part of the Haliburton County Community Cooperative, has offered the use of a video camera for

Another element for this will include Heritage Ballet alumni, who will read verses from the Nutcracker poem between the dances. Thus far she has Tim Nicholson, Jordyn Archer Brown, Loretta Kerr and Jessica Bishop committed to reading.

Barban is asking for donations so she can give to the Haliburton Highlands Performing Arts Foundation, which has been working towards building a new community theatre and performing arts space. Although she is thankful for the Northern Lights Performing Arts

Pavilion, the planned theatre is expected to be larger than the current venue, offering rehearsal spaces, room for storage and is another option to avoid conflicts with how the school uses it for classes.

The idea for this virtual showcase is from last year, but Barban said there were too many details that she didn't know how to handle then. She put it off until this year when she saw her former student Justin, who offered his creative filmmaking skills for the effort after a chance meeting at his sister's baby shower a few months ago. The Haliburton Highlands Secondary School graduate and son of Anthony and Juliane is an aspiring filmmaker and was in Glasgow, Scotland a few weeks ago for the premiere of his documentary, A Cure for the Common Classroom during the COP26 UN Climate Change conference. It was a three-year effort with 519 Films that challenges conventional school model of

The Heritage Ballet alumnus said he was compelled to be part of continuing the legacy of inspiration set forth by his former teacher and the Nutcracker ballet.

"I have many fond memories in Julie's studio, and loved being part of the community that put together the Nutcracker. I'm thrilled to be helping the show continue - even virtually - and hope to one day see it on stage in Haliburton again. While the core school subjects were able to adapt to virtual landscapes, I can't imagine being a student and missing the in-person connections that develop through theatre and arts classes. With a little luck, small things like this virtual show will keep kids engaged, and dreaming big!" he wrote in an

Check the dance studio's Facebook page for updates, but expect to see the finished show on Facebook and Youtube on Dec. 24.

Contribute to a brighter Christmas

After more than a quarter of a century of Christmas Challenges by the Haliburton County Home Builders Association, the need to help others continues with the

In its 26 years, the Annual Christmas Challenge seeks the community's support by donating toys and food for those that are in need this festive season.

From a Facebook post on the home builders page, it reads, "Let's take a moment and remember what it was like to get that special gift on Christmas morning. Now those who can, need to reach down and lend a hand to those who make Christmas special to those who need that extra hand."

The home builders ask anyone interested in donating to call their office at 705-457-6901 to arrange for a pick up of donations, so they can be delivered to "Christmas workshops" for distribution by the 4Cs Food Bank, who will add them to Christmas hampers to help with their distribution to Haliburton, Minden Community Food Bank the the Central Food Network based in Wilberforce. Then the volunteers will come and collect unwrapped toys, gift certificates or food items at residences and locations of work. Please, prepare the collection in advance of the pick up on Dec. 10. For more information call the home builders.



People line up to receive their vaccination dose from the GO-VAXX bus. The bus was in town for the afternoon on Dec 4 in Haliburton. The Health Unit partnered with Metrolinx to bring the GO-VAXX bus to Haliburton this past Saturday. At this point, there are no other GO-VAXX dates planned for Haliburton County. The bus was possible because of a partnership with the Haliburton Kawartha Pine Ridge District health unit and Metrolinx. /NICK BERNARD Staff

Staff

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Maybelle's

Letters to Santa, don'tcha know

"HY, IF 'ol Maybelle's dearly departed mother, Milliebelle, didn't save all of the letters I wrote to Santa when I was a sprig of a girl, don'tcha know. You see, I never saw mama put my letters to the magical man in the mailbox, so I

just figured that he got them, since most of my wishes turned up as pre-sents under our Christmas tree.

Now, every year, I take that big ol' hatbox that she kept them in, off the shelf in my cedar closet and read through them with awe and wonder. Was I ever that young? Was I ever that innocent? Why was I ever so lucky to have a mama who made me laugh when I cried and assured me all would be well when it seemed so

bleak? But, back to the letters to Santa. Now, as I'm reading the oldest one, dated December 1, 1939 when I was five... (mama taught me how to write early, although there were lots of spelling errors as you're about to see). And the paper is all yellow and wilty. Here goes.

Letter #1

Deer Sannta, mi name iz Maybelle and I want a bear for Chrissmas. Frum Maybelle

Well, I did get a handmade bear that Christmas that I thought for

sure came from the North Pole, but I learned many years later that it was my Auntie Fester who made it for me. And, wouldn't you know, today I have a real bear (that I always wanted). Most of you know, his name is Bogart. He is exceptionally kind and thoughtful

and, by the way, he has a genius IQ. I just glanced over at him and wouldn't you know, he was glancing at me at the same time with those big loveable warm brown eyes.

I wrote this next letter in December, 1944 when I was 10. My spelling was much improved by then.

Letter #2

Dear Santa, please bring my cousin Jerry back from the war in Normandy safe and sound. He is nineteen years old and I miss him something awful. From

Maybelle.

Cousin Jerry didn't make it back safe and sound and mama did her best to explain to me that it wasn't Santa's fault.

This next letter, which is the last that I will share with you, I wrote when I was 15.

Dear Santa, I know that mama will be reading this and the truth is, I want her to. Sometimes it's hard to tell mama just how much I love and appreciate her because she's just too humble to lis-



ten. She'll stop me half-way and say something like: Oh, go on, Maybelle. Go do your homework or make sure the gate to the chicken coop is closed, or something like that. Or, can't you see I'm busy making a pie?

So, here it is mama. Something I've been wanting to tell you for a very long

You have been my best Christmas present ever since I was little. You were always there for me with a wink, a hug,

and yes ... pie. Merry Christmas, mama. Always with deep love, your, Maybelle

Mama went to heaven twenty years ago, but she's still with me whenever I think of her. And, my letters to Santa that she kept. That's so Milliebelle.

Maybelle's Fireside Stories is written by Jerelyn Craden whose novel, "Vessie Flamingo Outshining the Moon," and "Maybelle's Cure for What Ails You" are available at amazon.com.





Merry Christmas and all the best in 2022!



Barbers Nick Folco and Courtney Barnum stand with the coat donations for Noble Barber's coat drive. They are collecting donated coats and food at their Highland Street location until Dec. 17. /NICK BERNARD Staff

Local barbershop holds coat drive and raffle

NICK BERNARD

Staff Reporter

In a corner of the Noble Barbershop is a Christmas tree and a metal coat rack that is so full, owner Nick Folco has started to simply stack them on top of each other. His last customer leaves for a moment, and comes back with a coat in his hand. Black, with blue trim. A ski jacket, almost new

Now until Dec. 17, Folco is collecting coat donations at his shop's location on Highland Street. Anyone who makes a donation will have their name submitted into a draw that will win them a gift pack from the Noble Barber, including a gift card from Glecoff's Family Store.

"We just wanted to do something for people in the community that can't afford to get a fresh coat or, you know, their coats are, you know, just a little too used," Folco said.

The Noble Barber has been in town for about a year. Folco started the shop with his wife, Kirstley, and has recently had Courtney Barnum join the team.

"I wanted to do something I love in a place that I love," Folco said.

The prize is a gift basket that includes a \$50 gift card to Glecoff's, coupled with a package of products and merchandise from the Noble Barber, including hair and beard products, and other merchandise.

The Noble Barbershop is collecting donations until

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Notice (Applicant - Plater)

In the matter of the Municipal Act and in the matter of a proposed by-law of the corporation of the Municipality of Highlands East to close, stop-up and convey certain portions of the original shore road allowance along the shore of Salerno Lake, more particularly hereinafter described.

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the Municipal Act, S.O. 2001, and the Municipal Procedures, that the Township Council of The Corporation of the Municipality of Highlands East proposes to consider and if deemed advisable, to pass a virtual meeting on Tuesday, the 14th day of December, 2021, at 9:00 a.m., a By-Law to close, stop-up and convey to the adjacent land owners the following described lands:

> Part of the Original Shore Road Allowance in front of Lot 2, Concession 5, Township of Glamorgan, Municipality of Highlands East, County of Haliburton, shown as Part 1 on a Plan of Survey made by Bishop Geyer Surveying Inc., dated May 14, 2021.

The Plan of Survey is available to you for inspection by making an appointment at the Municipality of Highlands East

The above described lands, by resolution, have been declared to be surplus. If you wish to attend the virtual meeting, please call or email the Municipal Clerk prior to the day of the public meeting so you can be provided with a link or phone number for the meeting. If you do not have the capability to attend a virtual meeting, please provide written comments to the Municipal Clerk prior to the

Any person or his or her counsel, solicitor or agent who attends the virtual meeting shall be afforded an opportunity to make representations in respect of the within matter.

Dated at the Municipality of Highlands East, Wilberforce, Ontario this 30th day of November, 2021.

> Robyn Rogers, Municipal Clerk Box 295, 2249 Loop Road Wilberforce, ON KOL 3C0 rrogers@highlandseast.ca 705-448-2981



In the matter of the Municipal Act and in the matter of a proposed By-law of the Corporation of the Municipality of Highlands East to close, stop-up and convey certain portions of the Original Shore Road Allowance along the shore of **Esson Lake**, more particularly hereinafter described.

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the *Municipal Act*, S.O. 2001, and the Municipal Procedures, that the Township Council of The Corporation of the Municipality of Highlands East proposes to consider and if deemed advisable, to pass a virtual meeting on Tuesday, the 14th day of December, 2021, at 9:00 a.m., a By-Law to close, stop-up and convey to the adjacent land owners the

following described lands:

Firstly: Part of the Original Shore Road Allowance in front of Lot 24, Concession 16, Township of Monmouth, Municipality of Highlands East, County of Haliburton, shown as Part 1 on a Plan of Survey made by Bishop Geyer Surveying Inc., dated August 13, 2020.

Secondly: Part of Lot 24 Designated as Road Allowance on Registered Plan No. 409, Township of Monmouth, Municipality of Highlands East, County of Haliburton, shown as Part 2 on a Plan of Survey made by Bishop Geyer Surveying Inc., dated August 13, 2020.

The Plan of Survey is available to you for inspection by making an appointment at the Municipality of Highlands East offices, Wilberforce, Ontario

The above described lands, by resolution, have been declared to be surplus. If you wish to attend the virtual meeting, please call or email the Municipal Clerk prior to the day of the public meeting so you can be provided with a link or phone number for the meeting. If you do not have the capability to attend a virtual meeting, please provide written comments to the Municipal Clerk prior to the

Any person or his or her counsel, solicitor or agent who attends the virtual meeting shall be afforded an opportunity to make representations in respect of the within matter.

And Take Further Notice that if the public wishes to participate regarding the purchase of Shoreline Road Allowance please contact the Municipal Clerk.

Dated at the Municipality of Highlands East, Wilberforce, Ontario this 30th day of November, 2021.

Robyn Rogers, Municipal Clerk

Box 295, $2\overline{2}49$ Loop Road WILBERFORCE, ON KOL 3C0 rrogers@highlandseast.ca 705-448-2981





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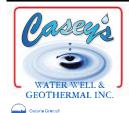
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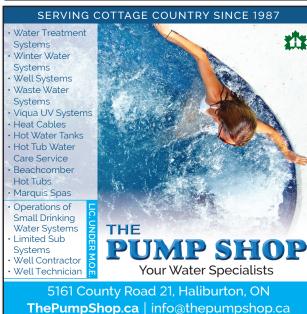
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- Willingness to live in Haliburton County
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- Required to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19

Interested candidates should forward their resume with writing and photography samples to Publisher, David Zilstra by Friday, December 10th

david.zilstra@haliburtonpress.com

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Haliburton Highlands Health Services has a need for Full-Time, Part-Time (Permanent and/or Temporary) and Casual staff for the noted classifications below.

RN's and RPN's are expected to be available for both Minden and Haliburton Hospital locations. In addition, opportunities are available in our two Long Term Care facilities, Hyland Wood and Hyland Crest. The Registered Nurse earns \$33.90 /hr - \$48.53/hr and is responsible for providing comprehensive care to patients, with predictable and unpredictable outcomes who may or may not be clinically stable. The successful candidate will possess a diploma/degree in Nursing and a current Certificate of Competence from the College of Nurses of Ontario. Two years of acute care practice and one year or more of previous emergency department or specialty department experience is preferred. Temporary accommodation will be provided.

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Donald Ross Downey

(Resident of Haliburton Ontario, formerly of Eganville, Ontario)

Donald was born on Feb 26, 1924 and grew up in Alliston, Ontario. He joined the Air Force in 1943 and served in Dunville, Ontario and Yarmouth, Nova Scotia during World War II. After the war, he studied Anthropology at U. of T. and did graduate fieldwork in Archeology at University of Arizona. He then worked on weather stations in the Canadian Arctic as a Meteorologist for the

Department of Transport for three years. He later discovered a love for teaching. First, he taught at Ryerson in Toronto, then taught high school in Dundalk, Alliston and Opeongo near Eganville, a total

 $Don\ was\ married\ to\ Margaret\ Isobel\ Hodgson\ for\ 63\ years.\ Together,\ they\ were\ active\ members\ of\ St$ John's Anglican Church in Eganville for 56 years. Don was also elected as town councillor of Eganville for 8 years and organized the Rotary Ski School for 25 years and was an avid skier until he was 80. He had a record of 53 years of perfect attendance as a Rotarian and in 1988 became a Paul Harris Fellow. He was a member of the Eganville Royal Canadian Legion for 53 years. In 2013 he received the Senior Achievement Award from the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario in recognition of significant volunteer contribution to his community after the age of 65. He loved his family, the cottage, skiing, Star Trek, reading and playing card games with his kids and grandkids. He was known for his patience, kindness and giving nature, and lived by his favourite motto, "If you can't say anything nice, don't say anything at all". He is survived by his wife Margaret, and his children, Jade, Shawn (Patti), Pam, Hugh (Marnie) and grandchildren, Alex (Joseph), Genna, Sigourney, Zackary, Jake, Ronan, Keenan and Kate.

Private Celebration Of Life

A Private Celebration Of Life will take place. Interment later Evergreen Cemetery, Haliburton. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME 13523 Hwy. #118, Haliburton, Ontario (705) 457-9209.

www.community funeral homes.com



In Loving Memory of

KOWAL: Marilyn Florence

Passed away at Fenelon Court Long Term Care, Fenelon Falls, on Monday November 29, 2021.

Marilyn Kowal (nee Rundle) of Bobcaygeon in her 94th year. Loving wife of the late Micheal. Beloved mother of Judith Pretty (James) and Debra and David Coty. Fondly remembered by her seven grandchildren, eight great

grandchildren, and two great great grandchildren.

Predeceased by her father Walter, mother Ivy, and brothers William and

Visitation will commence at 1:00 PM at THE HENDREN FUNERAL HOMES, MONK CHAPEL, 6 Helen Street, Bobcaygeon on Friday December 3, 2021, followed by the funeral service at 2:00 PM. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, you must register to attend the visitation and service by visiting www.hendrenfuneralhome.com. Reception to follow in the fellowship room of the funeral home. Private family interment will be held at Ebenezer Cemetery, Courtice at a later date. As expressions of sympathy and in lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Alzheimer's Society. Friends may send condolences or make donations by contacting the funeral home at www.hendrenfuneralhome.com or by calling 705-738-3222.





Sidney "Joan" Galley (nee Andrews)

It is with heavy hearts we announce the passing of a beautiful, generous, intelligent, selfless, and accomplished mother, daughter, former nurse and administrator, Sidney Joan Galley (nee Andrews). Born in Toronto, Ontario, in 1934, Joan was a graduate of The Bishop Strachan School for girls, and McGill University School of Nursing. Through her schooling years and beyond, Joan developed and fostered many life-long friendships and interests. She beat to her own drum and is remembered by one of her nieces as "this glamourous aunt who had many boyfriends and her own apartment in Toronto", and by another niece who remembers, with slight envy, Joan's "little red sportscar"!

As a registered nurse, Joan worked in some of the toughest settings; the children's burn unit, neonatal intensive care, and emergency room. As children, we remember being awed by her stories and even a little mortified! Her career culminated in the senior administration of nursing homes, a demanding but rewarding end to her years "of patient care".

Joan had many passions; true crime, duplicate bridge, collecting and refinishing Canadiana furniture, English history, and genealogy, but her passion for ancient peoples, cultures and languages trumped all.

She visited many a far-flung destination, and sites of particular interest, in Turkey, Egypt, Greece, Africa and Central America. She could read Hieroglyphics and spent hours on the decipherment of the ancient Mycenean Greek syllabic script, Linear B, which predates the Greek alphabet by several centuries.

Our home was clean but not tidy! Stacks of books and papers lined the rooms and covered even the dining room table. But it was a home filled with love and encouragement. Mom left us with many life lessons, and these, through example, not rhetoric. She was kind, a hard worker, a loyal and devoted friend and an involved parent.

And she wasn't afraid to get dirty! Our parents purchased a lot on Little Redstone Lake in 1974. After a few summers "camping out", our parents spent many subsequent, building the family cottage, mostly themselves. We remember the anticipation of returning from summer camp to the "progress" that had been made at the cottage that season.

Mom never remarried after the passing of our father, Thomas Arnold Galley, in 1992 (age 56). She thereafter relocated to Haliburton, Ontario permanently, and continued to enjoy her family, friends, bridge games and social engagements. Kosy Korner Restaurant was a favourite destination — especially in the days when she could happily (and defiantly?) smoke at the table!

Joan is survived by her two children and five lovely grandchildren: Jon Stromer-Galley (Jen Stromer-Galley, Isabelle, Bridget & Audrey) and Karen Galley (Peter Buonocore, Emma, and Sean). The last surviving of her siblings (Leonard, Myrtle and Ruth), Joan was also close with her nieces, nephews, and extended family and, in particular, her niece Linda and husband Bob who were also with her through a beautiful and peaceful passing. With love and gratitude.

Respecting the family's wishes, there will be no formal service at this time. A celebration of life is planned for the spring. In lieu of flowers please consider a donation to The Proud Pioneers of Extendicare. The Proud Pioneers organize activities and events for the residents, by the residents, enriching their lives in many ways. Mom experienced loving and expert care through Extendicare in the final years of her life and we could not be more appreciative for the service and support of their truly dedicated team. Please make your check payable to The Proud Pioneers at Extendicare Haliburton, 167 Park St, Haliburton, ON, KOM1SO. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the **HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME** 13523 Hwy. #118, Haliburton, Ontario (705) 457-9209.

www.communityfuneralhomes.com

Those we love don't go away They walk beside us every day. Unseen, unheard, but always near Still loved, still missed and very dear.



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TWELVE MILE LAKE ROAD \$1,995,000



A RARE FIND! 1677 feet of frontage and 6+ acres fronting on both beautiful Twelve Mile Lake and Little Boshkung I ake. This point lot is totally private and takes in multiple exposures and has stunning lake views. The historic "Strathcona Lodge" was located here The original foundation is still present and has the potential to be built on. Two small historic cabins are also on the subject property. Don't miss this opportunity to build your dream home getaway on one of the most neaceful settings in Haliburton County.
Price is plus HST

MOUNTAIN STREET \$539,000



antastic home, situated on a vear-round road in a lovely private neighbourhood.
This lovingly owned and maintained home features 3 bdrms and full bathm on the main level. Enjoy tons of natural lighting in the bright, spacious living room, dining area and kitchen. Step out to the sunroor and feel immersed in nature - overlooking the beautiful flowing creek and forest. rinished lower level with derinbedroom, renovated 3pc bathrm, and large rec room. Great sized lot and large double carport. This family home offers endless possibilities.

KAWAGAMA LAKE \$279,000



the lake. This property has a fantastic shoreline of mixed and/gravel gradual entry to the water Hydro is at the lot line and there is good cell service. This is easily accessible from either marina on the lake. Eniov this affordable lot in the summer while you make your plans for your new cottage. Great fishing year-round and fantastic snowmobiling in the

STILLS ROAD \$128,500



This beautiful 1.2-acre building lot is located in the heart of and building site is cleared and ready for your year-round home or getaway. Many apple rees throughout the property. Stunning park-like setting. Surrounded by mature trees in a quiet neighbourhood. Paved year-round municipal road. Walking distance to Eagle Lake Country market, Eagle Lake public beach and boat launch. Stop dreaming and start building your dream home or cottage

WENONA LAKE \$94,500



Fantastic lot in a quiet area. This 0.42-acre lot is the perfect spot to build your families dream cottage or home. Conveniently located on a year-round road with hydro and telephone available and located 15 minutes from Haliburton village. Surrounded by mature trees providing ample privacy. 1/12 interest (ownership) in waterfront lot 62 which has a beautiful sand shoreline and western exposure overlooking Wenona Lake, Adiacent lot is owned by the municipality adding additional

CHELSEA LANE \$69,900



This pretty 1.52-acre lot is in the vicinity of the 3 lake chain-Green-Maple-Beech. Deeded access to Maple Lake within walking distance. Situated just utside West Guilford, betweer Carnarvon and Haliburton with easy seasonal access off HWY 118. The lot is fairly level with a slight elevation to a great spot to build your retreat. Surrounded area. Ample privacy and lots of outdoors.

FOUR REASONS TO LIST DURING THE WINTER



1) People who look for a home or cottage during the winter are more serious buyers. By listing now, you may have fewer showings but more qualified and motivated buyers.



- 2) Buyers have more time available to look for a home or cottage during the winter season.
- 3) Serious buyers have fewer houses and cottages to choose from during the winter. You will have less competition, resulting in a quicker sale and a better price for you.



4) Homes and cottages "Show Better" when decorated during the holidays. These decorations will create a warm atmosphere making it feel more like "home" to the buyer.

Do you need assistance in selling your home or cottage? Start by calling Linda Baumgartner and **Baumgartner Realty Group today!** 705.457.3461